

CHAP. 149.

extending from the head of said branch until it intersects the corner of Edward Burrows's field, to meet on the first Monday of June next, and on the first Monday of June in each and every year, or within ten days thereafter, at James M'Donnough's tavern at Bullock-town, or at any other place, which a majority of the proprietors may appoint, in Queen Anne's county, and for such proprietors, or a majority of those who shall attend said meeting, then and there annually to elect, by ballot, three of said proprietors for directors, who, when so elected and chosen, are hereby authorised and empowered, or any two of them, to make and open a drain or ditch down said branch, from the head thereof until it shall intersect the corner of Edward Burrows's field, in such direction and of such width and depth as they, or a majority of them, may judge most proper to carry off the water from the said branch, and reduce the same to dry land; and the power and authority of said directors, so to be chosen, shall continue and be in force until the next annual election of directors.

Expense of cutting ditch to be paid by proprietors of land

2. *And be it enacted*, That the cost, charges and expenses, of cutting and opening said ditch or drain, shall be paid by the respective proprietors of the same, each paying for the cutting and opening the said drain or ditch through his or her own land, except where it shall so happen that two or more of the said proprietors hold parts of the said branch through which the said ditch or drain shall be made, adjoining each other, part on the one side thereof, and part on the other, in which case each shall pay in proportion to the part he or she shall or may hold.

Directors authorised to cut and complete ditch

3. *And be it enacted*, That the said directors, or any two of them, shall have full power and authority, at any time thereafter, to cut, open and complete, the said drain or ditch, and also from time to time to repair, cleanse and keep open, and in good order, the said ditch or drain, so to be opened and cut in virtue of this act, at the expense of the said proprietors, in the same proportion that the expenses of cutting and opening the said ditch or drain are to be paid; and for the purpose of cutting and opening the said ditch or drain in the first instance, and of repairing and cleansing the same when cut and opened, the said directors, or any two of them, are hereby authorised to apportion what they may conceive the expense thereof will amount to, and demand and receive such proportions respectively from the said proprietors, before or at any time after the commencement of said work, or after the same is finished; *Provided always*, that inasmuch as it may be inconvenient for some of the proprietors through whose lands said ditch or drain shall pass, to satisfy and answer all the expenses of cutting and opening said ditch or drain at one time, the said directors, or any two of them, may make an estimate of the expenses of cutting the said ditch or drain, through that part of the branch in which the said ditch or drain shall pass, and apportion the same as above directed; and that the same be paid by the proprietors respectively of that particular part of said branch, unto the said directors, at three annual payments, one third of which to be discharged on or before the first Monday of April eighteen hundred and twenty-eight, one third on or before the first day of April eighteen hun-

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